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UM lands grant to train special education teachers

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University of Montana

NEWS RELEASE

Office of News and Publications
Missoula, MT 59812
(406) 243-2522

October 23, 1991

UM LANDS GRANT TO TRAIN SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS

MISSOULA --

This fall, a law went into effect requiring all schools to serve children with disabilities who are at least 3 years old. Montana schools having trouble recruiting special education preschool teachers should take heart.

The University of Montana School of Education has landed a three-year federal grant to train such teachers at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, says education Dean Donald Robson.

The U.S. Department of Education will provide \$70,753 for the first year of the program; UM's contribution in faculty salaries and additional funding will boost the total to \$103,872.

The grant will support new courses in assessment and curriculum and teaming with families. All courses will include intensive practical experiences with community agencies and schools that serve children with disabilities and their families.

Taking part in the Montana Early Childhood Special Education teacher-training program will be an option for UM special education majors beginning in January 1992.

Because the program probably will increase the time needed to finish a degree, stipends will be provided to offset student expenses. During the first year, \$31,000 will be available to

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support six undergraduate students at \$2,500 each and four graduate students at \$4,000 each.

For more information, call Dean Donald Robson at 243-4911 or project director Richard van den Pol at 243-5344.

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Local, dailies, Chronicle of H.E., Green Sheet, DEC Communicator
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